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To Bonita Lavelle/EPR/R8/USEPA/US@EPA

cc Dan Strausbaugh/MO/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Chris  
Poulet/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, "Hayes, Lisa  
(ATSDR/DHAC/SRAB)" <lih1@CDC.GOV>

bcc

Subject ATSDR Plans for OU3

  
1135512 - R8 SDMS

Hi Bonnie,

I have prepared the attached letter to describe ATSDR's plan for evaluating public health impacts from OU3, the mine site. This evaluation was a future item in the public health action plan of the 2003 Libby Public Health Assessment. We plan to do the evaluation after the results of EPA's activity based sampling this summer are available. Please feel free to contact me if you have a questions or concerns, and I look forward to continuing to work with you on this site.

Thanks,  
Jill

**Jill J. Dyken, Ph.D., P.E.**  
**Environmental Health Scientist**

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May 11, 2009

Ms. Bonita Lavelle  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8  
1595 Wynkoop St., Mail Code: 8EPR-SR  
Denver, CO 80202-1129  
(via electronic mail)

Dear Bonnie:

Thank you for the ongoing information you have provided to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) regarding the investigative progress at Operable Unit 3 (OU3), the mine site unit of the Libby Asbestos NPL site. I am writing to inform you of ATSDR's progress and plans for evaluating the public health impacts of OU3, as was proposed in the public health action plan of the Libby public health assessment dated May 15, 2003.

As you know, the investigation of the mine site is proceeding separately from activities for the remainder of the Libby site. Access to the mine site has been effectively restricted at this time. ATSDR reviewed the OU3 sample results available as of April 2009 and confirmed that the main concern for future use of the mine site is the potential for inhalation exposure to residual Libby amphibole asbestos. I understand that activity-based sampling for representative recreational activities is to be conducted by EPA this year. Results from this sampling will allow ATSDR to assess potential public health impacts of OU3.

I'd appreciate if you could let Chris Poulet, Dan Strausbaugh or me know when the results of the sampling are available. In the meantime, please feel free to contact any of us if you have any questions or you'd like assistance with public health issues related to OU3. Thanks for your cooperation, and I look forward to continuing to work with you.

Sincerely,

Jill Dyken, Ph.D., P.E.  
Environmental Health Scientist  
Division of Health Assessment and Consultation